

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (withdrawn). A method of making a filter media comprising the steps of:
providing a precursor web comprising predominant staple length polyester fibers;
providing a foraminous surface, and positioning said precursor web and said foraminous surface; and

hydroentangling said precursor web to form said filter media, said filter media having a basis weight of no more than about 12 oz/yd², and exhibiting a Mullen burst strength of at least about 395 psi, and machine-direction and cross-direction shrinkage of less than about 3%.

Claim 2 (withdrawn). A method of making a filter media in accordance with claim 1, wherein said foraminous surface is a three-dimensional image transfer device.

Claim 3 (withdrawn) A method of making a filter media in accordance with claim 1, including:

heat-setting said filter media after said hydroentangling step.

Claim 4 (withdrawn). A method of making a filter media in accordance with claim 2, wherein said precursor web comprises fusible fibers whereby said filter media is thermally bonded during said heat-setting step.

Claim 5 (currently amended). A filter media comprising hydroentangled, predominantly polyester staple length fibers having a basis weight of no more than about 12 oz/yd², a Mullen burst strength of at least about 395 psi, and machine-direction and cross-direction shrinkage of

less than about 3% at 350° F, said filter media being heat-treated by one of heat-fusing and heat-setting, and exhibiting a machine -direction strip tensile of at least about 12.2 lb/in per ounce/yard² of basis weight, and a cross-direction strip tensile of at least about 8.5 lb/in per ounce/yard² of basis weight.

Claim 6 (currently amended). A filter media in accordance with claim 4 5, wherein said media exhibits machine-direction and cross-direction shrinkage of less than about 2%.

Claim 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (previously presented). A filter media in accordance with claim 5, wherein said filter media is a gas filter.

Claim 9 (previously presented). A filter media in accordance with claim 5, wherein said filter media is an air filter.

Claim 10 (previously presented). A filter media in accordance with claim 5, wherein said filter media is a liquid filter.